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David Hood JR

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2008 OCT -9 P 12: 32

MUR# 6092

Office of General Council Federal Election Commission 999 E Street NW Washington DC 20463

To Whom It May Concern:

On Sept 14 between the hours of 12:00 Pm and 2:30 Pm I attended a meeting for business held by the Religious Society of Friends: Quaker, located at Rt. 120 Purchase NY 10577. The last item on the agenda was approval for use of the building for an Obama Fundraiser. This event was held on Friday October 3, 2008 in the evening.

I was one of two voices in objection stating that tax exempt organizations are forbidden to engage in partisan politics (and yes I've also notified the IRS). Other voices ranged from being neutral to being in favor.

The campaign organizer for the Obama fundraiser is also on the board of decision making for the Quakers. She is a member of Ministry and council as well as co-clerk of the meeting. Despite the fact that she was wearing three hats that day (two for the Quakers and one for the Obama campaign). She failed to recluse herself from the decision making process.

Upon approval of the motion it was agreed by the meeting for business that they would rent the building from themselves and put forth a disclaimer that they were not affiliated w/themselves (not affiliated withe Quakers). Also A letter to the McCain camp would be drafted and sent out offering them the use of the building on similar terms. This was flatly rejected by the campaign manager/co-clerk of the meeting until a more moderate Obama supporter reminded her that it was part of her job description and that if she either refused or was unwilling to draft the letter then she could no longer fill the job description. She reluctantly agreed, But still questions remain:

First, given how short a time frame we have on this election would the McCain camp receive the letter in a timely fashion or would it arrive so late as to be meaningless?

As of this typing no letter has of yet been drafted (too my knowledge) let alone mailed.

Second, how are the Quakers going to distance themselves from themselves other then to claim these are individuals acting on their own when those same individuals are also officers of the Quakers themselves?

Third, where are the startup funds for this fundraiser coming from? Are they coming from meeting house funds? If so are they planning to pay themselves back on top of paying themselves rent? Are they going to pay the rent using proceeds from the Obama fundraiser?

Fourth, have the Quakers ever used meeting house funds to support candidates for public office or make political contributions to political parties?

Now I admit I'm no lawyer but I am an elected official in the Republican Party (and anyone who wishes to question my alternative motives is free to do so) and last I knew it was illegal for religious and/or Tax exempt organizations to be engaging in Partisan politics of any kind.

I humbly request a full investigation of this matter and leave the rest in your hands

Professionally Yours

David Hood JR

THOMAS J. BELCASTRO
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
NO. 018E8099788.
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MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OST: 6, 20 ]

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